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# THE ROSE THORN

ROSE-HULMAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 2009

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VOLUME 44, ISSUE 15

## News Briefs

By Andrew Klusman

### New standards for Energy Star

In November 2008, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Energy announced a higher standard for energy efficiency for television sets. The major revision for the new Energy Star rating, dubbed "Energy Star 3.0," is how efficiently a television runs when it is turned on. Up until November 2008, the requirements were primarily focused on standby or low-power mode, because these were easier targets to achieve. In 2005, as televisions were getting bigger, more were being sold, and they were used for more purposes, they created larger energy consumption, so Energy Star's next target was to make a standard that accounted for the power used in operation. There are some hang-ups with the new rating, however, primarily because many manufacturers are beating the new ratings by 15%, which opens the door to raising the standards.

### Ford Motor Company has \$5.9 billion loss

Ford Motor Company reported a fourth-quarter loss of \$5.9 billion, but restated that it does not need the federal bailout that General Motors and Chrysler have received. The \$5.9 billion loss is up from a loss of \$2.8 billion in the same quarter last year, and this brings the company to nearly \$30 billion lost in the past three years. Ford stated it has \$13.4 billion in cash reserves, and an additional \$10.1 billion available in credit lines. In addition to the \$5.9 billion loss, Ford had a loss of auto sales worldwide, except in South America in the fourth quarter. To react to lower car sales, Ford will make only 400,000 cars and trucks in the first quarter of 2009, down 42% from the first quarter of 2008.

### Five days for postal service?

A large deficit has led the postmaster general to ask Congress to lift the six days per week requirement for mail delivery which currently regulates the United States Postal Service. If there is a reduction in weekly delivery days, the target day may be Tuesday, according to previous post office studies which show Tuesday as a light volume day for mail. According to Postmaster General John E. Potter, if current mail trends continue this year, the post office could have a \$6 billion net loss. This year could also mark the first time there is a drop in the amount of money the post office collects, something that hasn't happened since 1946.

Lindsey Saxton

Advertising Manager

On Friday, January 23, spectators poured into Hatfield Hall not sure quite what to expect. The 2nd annual Mr. Rose pageant, presented by the Delta Xi Chapter of Alpha Omicron Pi on the Rose-Hulman campus, cost \$5 to attend with all proceeds going to Strike Out Arthritis, AOII's International Philanthropy. The initial 7 contenders were introduced by hosts AOII's Erin Parker and former Mr. Rose Matt Melton. Contestants were ATO's Cody Barron, XO's John Sullivan, AXE's Stutay Monga, Triangle's Scott Vicino, LXA's Nick Reed, IKA's Grant Walthall, and APO's Ben Collins. Judges were AOII's from neighboring chapters at Indiana State University, Quincy University, and Ball State University.

There were six events total, three before and after the ten minute intermission. The first was the "Opening Dance Off," where contestants were asked to "show off their skills of the dance floor to an unknown genre of music." Songs included "It's Raining Men" by the

Pointer Sisters and "Bye Bye Bye" by N\*SYNC. Some contestants, like Cody Barron, danced to the genre of the song, while others, like John Sullivan, performed random break dance moves like the worm. Next came the "Engineered Swimwear" category. Competitors brought swimsuits they made before the pageant to show off

"none compared to Melton's pink duct tape Speedo from last year," recalled Erin Parker. Third was the "MacGyverSkills" challenge. Contestants were given a bag with such random items as a CD, paper plate, duct tape, and ruler. Then, they were asked to create a birthday present for a female friend in fifteen minutes. The results were hilar-

barrel of cheese balls to a lip gloss set (won by a lucky male member of the audience) to a digital camera. Some were lucky enough to win one of the numerous items, while others, like Joanna Rosenbaum and Ramzi Zahreddine, won multiple prizes. Also interspersed between competitions were blurbs of information about arthritis. Random audience participants were asked to open a jar or button a shirt with socks on their hands to simulate the difficulties people with arthritis face. The pageant raised \$1648.73 for Strike Out Arthritis.

Halfway through the competition, the final four contestants were announced. Cody Barron, John Sullivan, Scott Vicino, and Nick Reed continued on to the last three events. The "Question and Answer" session brought serious questions like "What do you want to do with your life?" Followed by a set of funny questions, such as "Where in the world is Carmen Sandiego?" Apparently, the cartoon supervillain was at the ATO house Thursday night and zombie ninjas would win the three way battle between pirates, zombies, and ninjas.

Continued on page 3...

AOII is so grateful for all who helped the Mr. Rose pageant this year—we couldn't have done it without you! We had tons of fun holding this event and we're glad to be able to educate the community about arthritis and support the Arthritis Foundation.

-Amanda Vessey,  
past AOII President

to the audience. More like stripper outfits than actual bathing suits, the swimwear ranged from Grant's lumberjack, complete with axe and work boots, to Stutay's cross-dressing masterpiece, with heels and a tear-away flower for one lucky audience member. However,

ious. From Scott Vicino's mask to Nick Reed's towel doll to Ben Collins' baby (who doesn't want to take a baby with them to the bars?), the audience was laughing the entire time.

In between each competition, various items were raffled off. Prizes ranged from a giant

## Make a Dish for Make A Wish

Noel Spurgeon

Staff Writer

This Saturday, the Chi Omega chapters of Rose-Hulman and Indiana State University came together to host the third annual "Make-A-Dish for Make-A-Wish" dinner in the Rose-Hulman Student Union. Local restaurants donated dishes for the dinner, which were served by the sisters of Chi Omega. All proceeds from ticket sales were then donated to Make-A-Wish foundation, a charitable organization which fulfills the wishes of children with life-threatening illnesses.

"In years past we have just sent in a check for the amount that we raised to Make-A-Wish," said Sophia Percival, a senior biomedical engineering major, one of the organizers of the event. "However, this year I thought it would be interesting to find a local Vigo County child that needs funding for their Wish, so I contacted the Make-A-Wish Chapter

for Greater Indiana, Ohio, and Kentucky."

"[The chapter] gave me the name, bio, and wish of Mikayla, a 3 year old girl suffering from retinoblastoma, or cancer of the eye. Mikayla's Wish is to go to Disney World. The standard cost of a wish is \$6,000, so that's what we set as our goal."

In addition to the proceeds generated from ticket sales to the dinner, there was also a silent auction. The proceeds from the sale of the auction items (which included gifts from the Rose bookstore, DVD's, and gift certificates to local businesses) were also donated towards Mikayla's Wish. In addition to the donations by local restaurants and businesses, Mark Farner and the ARA staff donated kitchen space and equipment, while WMHD, Rose-Hulman's campus radio station, donated sound equipment.

The grand total of money raised from the event is still being added up.

Tim Boyer

Copy Editor

For seven whole days, each residence hall was pitted against each other as the Delta Delta Delta Women's Fraternity held its annual Penny Wars.

For seven grueling days, residents donated their pennies to their residence hall's fund. At the same time, residents sabotaged the effort of other halls by dropping silver coins in the other pots in an effort to bring their hall closer to the ultimate prize pack of a crown, a trophy, pancake breakfast and chest of candy. Toward the end, the Sisters went around collecting any remaining change, silver or not, to contribute to each hall's fund.

All this was in an effort for Delta Delta Delta Women to raise money for Riley's Children's Hospital in Indianapolis. After seven arduous days of battle the Women's Fraternity raised a grand total of \$1,757.50 for the hospital.

Sharpenburg Hall managed to come in third place, donating an average of \$2.61 per person. Deming edged into second place at \$2.64 per person. Skinner took the grand prize, donating an average of \$3.01 person.

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Rose-doku

By Melissa Brumbaugh

Crypto-Quote of the Week

By Melissa Brumbaugh

**Instructions:**  
Use the letters: A B C D E F G H I to fill in the missing spaces. Be sure not to repeat any number in each row, column, or 3x3 square.

		B	G	D		F		
	A	D	E				H	
E				A			D	C
			I		B		G	F
H		E				C		D
B	G		D		E			
A	E			B				H
	B				G	A	F	
		I		E	D	B		

Find the answers to all Rose Thorn puzzles at:  
<http://www.rose-hulman.edu/thorn>

**Instructions:**  
Solve the puzzle by deciphering the following quote and figure out from which movie the quote is. Each letter represents a different letter in the alphabet.

**Hint (Solution = Crypto):**  
A = E B = C C = Y

FPGTG KEQ E IHYAGET KET. E BGK XGETQ  
-----.  
BTMD IMK, EAA FPZQ, FPZQ KPMAG WAEYG,  
-----,  
GOGTXFPZIJ, ZF’Q JMIG. UHQF JMIG.  
-----,  
FPGTG KGTG QHTOZOMTQ. PGTG, FPGTG.  
-----.

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“Working to keep the Rose-Hulman community informed by providing an accurate and dependable source for news and information.”

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## Mr. Rose, Page 1

Next, the four contestants were asked to give their birthday wishes to two AOIIs celebrating their birthdays, Quincy University's Lyndzie Thoms (19) and Rose Hulman's Allie Terrell (22). Forms of expression ranged from poetry that promised a kiss from Mr. Rose to a Western song that was just the traditional Happy Birthday song sung with a Western accent. Last of all, the competitors sported suave formal wear and escorts on their arms. The person that collected the most money in

their basket, Nick Reed, was awarded a set of coupons for local businesses before the winner of Mr. Rose was announced. The new Mr. Rose is Triangle Scott Vicino, escorted by Ashley Jackson. Scott and Runner-Up John Sullivan will receive Amazon.com gift certificates as their awards. Enjoyable and hilarious, the pageant was a success. As Brianna Butchart said, "I was impressed by the ability of the boys to engineer on their feet; going to Rose gives men an advantage with the ladies!"

## Theft and vandalism

**Tim Boyer**

*Copy Editor*

Last weekend, Rose-Hulman dealt with incidents of theft and vandalism. More seriously, late last Friday night, at about 12:55a.m., someone slashed 16 tires on 11 cars. Most of the cars were parked in the area of the Triangle Fraternity house and were owned by a mix of members of Triangle and the Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity and non-Rose students. Currently, the incident is under investigation.

About two years ago, there was a similar incident involving tire slashings. The perpetrator, a Terre Haute resident, was eventually caught and forced to reimburse the victims. At this time, it is unknown if he was

responsible for the most recent incident.

Additionally, sometime between Friday night and Saturday night of last week, the banner for the NCAA Division III Track & Field Championships was taken from the trailer sitting by the baseball field. The \$800 banner was apparently carefully removed as the bungee cords used to hold the banner to the trailer were laid neatly in a pile to the side.

Subsequently, Dean of Students Pete Gustafson sent out an e-mail regarding the two events. Early Tuesday morning, at approximately 12:50a.m., a figure was seen returning the banner, spreading it out on the steps of the Sports & Recreation Center where it was found by the building supervisor at 7a.m.



Rose-Hulman News

The banner for the NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships was recently stolen from nearby Rose's baseball fields. It was returned Tuesday.

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## U. Minnesota researchers try to make fuel from algae

**Conor Shine**

*Minnesota Daily*

With the country's energy outlook still undecided, a team of researchers at the University of Minnesota is leading the investigation of a promising new source of biofuels.

Professor Roger Ruan, director of the Center for Biorefining, and a team of researchers are examining algae as a possible source of oil for biofuels.

Ruan said algae have shown promise as a biofuel and the team is working to make it as productive as possible.

He will be discussing his research along with other biofuel experts at the From Pond to Power forum Tuesday, put on by the student group EcoWatch.

One key to making algae a viable source for biofuel is to find other uses for it to reduce the overall cost of production, Ruan said.

"On a big scale, it would probably have to combine with some other benefit like wastewater treatment or CO2 neutralization," he said.

Using algae to clean wastewater

could cost less than current methods, Ruan said, and the savings generated could make the fuel created from the algae cheaper and more economically feasible.

Obstacles do exist in growing algae in large amounts and then extracting oil from it, Ruan said.

"Since algae are wet, extracting the oil from it is very expensive," Ruan said. "We're trying a range of techniques to convert algae to biodiesel."

Min Min, a post-doctoral student working with Ruan, said it's exciting to be working on a project with broad impact.

Her work primarily involves trying to grow algae in wastewater and then using it to clean the waste, she said, adding that it could be a useful process in the future.

Dennis Keeney, a senior fellow at the Institute for Agriculture Trade Policy, said there is a need for new biofuels as resentment grows against the use of corn ethanol as a fuel source at both a scientific and national policy level.

"We should move on and do something better, pretty fast," he said.

Keeney said he thinks the federal

government overinvested in corn ethanol, and is continuing to push it as a fuel source even though economic and energy efficiency issues have arisen.

"It's proving to be something we did too fast," Keeney said. "They thought they had a winner and it's turning out to be a loser."

Mark Hamerlinck, communications director for the Minnesota Corn Growers Association, said his organization supports taking a "parallel path" that involves the continued use of corn ethanol while other alternative fuels are developed.

"We've got something that's proven that works in corn ethanol," he said.

Hamerlinck said no single alternative fuel will be able to fix the country's energy security issues.

"Corn ethanol isn't the silver bullet, it's a silver BB," he said. "It's a part of the solution."

Regardless of corn ethanol's future as an energy source, Ruan said he believes algae-based biofuels can be a part of the solution.

"I think there's real potential," he said.

# RIAA backs away from past legal tactics

**Jeanine Budd**

*The Northeastern News*

Since 1999, when former Northeastern student Shawn Fanning ignited popular peer-to-peer file sharing by developing Napster in his residence hall, the phenomenon has spread from the NU campus outward like an unstoppable epidemic.

Consequently, the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) assumed policing duties in 2003 to combat so-called "pirates," but has changed its strategy in the latest chapter of its prolonged effort to prevent the practice.

After suing more than 35,000 people during its nearly five-year long crusade, the RIAA recently announced that it will adopt a more mild policy in lieu of wielding mass lawsuits against illegal file sharers. Instead, they will use Internet Service Providers (ISPs) as official conduits. When illegal file sharing or downloading is detected, the ISP, not the RIAA, will contact the culprit via e-mail, requesting they stop after the first of two warnings. If the user does

not stop after the second warning, the ISP will slow down service or cut it off all together, according to recent media reports.

According to the reports, the RIAA itself came under scrutiny during its onslaught of lawsuits, managing to sue several single mothers, a 13-year-old girl and person who had died.

"Only time will tell if this will actually be effective," said Marcus Breen, a communications studies professor at Northeastern. "It could be a total waste of time. It's really an attempt to keep the music industry alive, when they might be better off to put the [industry] out of its misery."

The RIAA maintains its fight against illegal music downloading is for the good of the music industry.

"We have all seen the effects illegal downloading has had on Music Row - too many record stores have been shuttered and too many songwriters are out of the business of writing songs," said RIAA CEO and Chairman, Mitch Bainwol, in a recent RIAA press release.

Breen said the music industry is suffering after having experi-

enced success in the '70s and '80s and has recently taken to following policy that may alienate music fans.

"The music industry tends to resort to threat," Breen said. "Their first reaction is to threaten legal action."

Northeastern students are no strangers to aggressive RIAA tactics.

Last winter, while Erin Cheek was living in the international residence hall at 153 Hemenway St., she said she received an aggressively worded e-mail, forwarded along through the university and signed by representatives at the RIAA.

"I was a very active downloader," admitted the sophomore international affairs and human services major. "I love music, so I was downloading probably over 100 songs a day. I just like to check out bands to see if I like them, and maybe I will actually buy their music."

Although Cheek said she was regularly downloading everything from classic rock to contemporary indie via Limewire, the song that got her in trouble - named by the RIAA in their let-

ter - wasn't on her hard drive.

"After that, I don't use [peer-to-peer file sharing programs] anymore," she said. "They were like, 'This is the first warning.' If it happened again, they would have been able to sue me, basically."

In the past, the RIAA has charged some students thousands of dollars and taken those who didn't pay to court. In late 2005, the RIAA accused MIT graduate Cassi Hunt of sharing 272 songs. The non-negotiable settlement price they provided was \$3,750.

Some schools willingly provide the RIAA and Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) with the names of students whose IP addresses have been linked to illegal activity, said Tom Leary, a help-desk supervisor at Infocommons. But he said Northeastern has never entered into such an agreement with either organization.

"We don't really get involved if the RIAA or MPAA petition for information about students," Leary said.

Instead, Northeastern would only forfeit the information if a

subpoena was filed. Bearing in mind the recent change in RIAA policy, Leary said he doesn't foresee any change in Northeastern's approach - even though Northeastern is the official ISP of all its on-campus students.

Bob Weir, vice president of Information Services at Northeastern, said that while he had no comment on the RIAA's actions, students need to be aware they are responsible for how they choose to use ResNet.

Although the RIAA's new warning system might seem more fair to students, Cheek said she preferred the process by which she was contacted - even though it could have concluded with her shelling out an inordinate amount of money.

"People might not take [the threat] as seriously if they have multiple chances - one warning and then a consequence is probably most effective," she said. "And it was more effective for me that I would actually get sued, than maybe lose Internet access. I can use a computer elsewhere."

(News staff Dani Capalbo contributed to this report.)



## Oasis' latest: the edge of being unoriginal

**Ben Collins***Entertainment Editor*

It's often enough that the music population, both fans and artists alike, becomes transfixed with certain artists. It could be that the artists are inspiring and break boundaries, or they speak to the common man and the fans repay this with their adoration. The Beatles were one of the groups that in their brief career did both and left an impression that has labeled them one of the best groups of all time.

That being said, The Beatles have had their apex of fame. McCartney and Ringo have moved onto successful solo careers, only replaying their previous songs to give fans some grand nostalgia. Musicians after them have noted their greatness and play covers of such greats as "Eleanor Rigby" and "Blackbird" to reach a similar goal. However, there is the far extreme of fixation known as imitation.

Oasis is this extreme. This was admitted, analyzed and argued before "Wonderwall" was even a single. It's also been accepted that they can produce good singles and overall original music while remaining a group that adores and emulates their idols.

As a fan of The Beatles and a reveler in music in general, it's a hard decision to accept or reject Oasis on the basis of their controlling admiration. As a reviewer, though, it comes down only to the quality of the music. With that in mind, I've sought to look at the quality of Oasis' original sound and pull it from their fanatical regurgitation.

For the better part of half the album, the music is original and high-quality, some being very single-worthy; "The Shock of Lightning" is as addictive as

it is simple and "The Turning" has an outstanding beat with hypnotizing mellow vocals and backing piano. The rest of the album is the unfortunate reprise, such that it is mildly annoying to listen to. That said, it's not impossible to listen to and after a while, the music really becomes more amiable to the listener.

The more original and (consequently better) music is spaced throughout the album, helping to keep the album from being repetitive with trippy, imitative songs. "Waiting for the Rapture" nestled between the previously mentioned good songs helps squelch the harm it could have done if it followed songs like "Ain't Got Nothin'."

Despite all this, it's not a bad album. After running through the album a few times, the music is appealing, not necessarily showing maturity but at least skill. Overall, it's a laid back and mellow piece that stays at that level with little deviation. However, it's not overly enthralling and isn't what I would call a very dynamic series of tracks. However, despite all the negativity and my own cries of shennanigans for some of the songs, it is something I can listen to and not automatically despise for being a poser.

Reviewer rating: 3.0 elephants



[www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

*The seventh studio album from the slightly original Oasis. While being a tried and true sound, it does show their Beatles love all too overtly.*

## Batman, I don't think we're in Smallville anymore: Superman/Batman

**Eli Baca***Staff Writer*

In the latest adventures of Superman/Batman, the super duo is looking to rid the earth of every piece of kryptonite. In previous issues, a meteor of the green-k was on a collision course and got blown out of the sky, scattering fragments all over the world, making kryptonite very easy to find and making Superman vulnerable to "second tier" villains like Livewire (psychotic electro-girl).

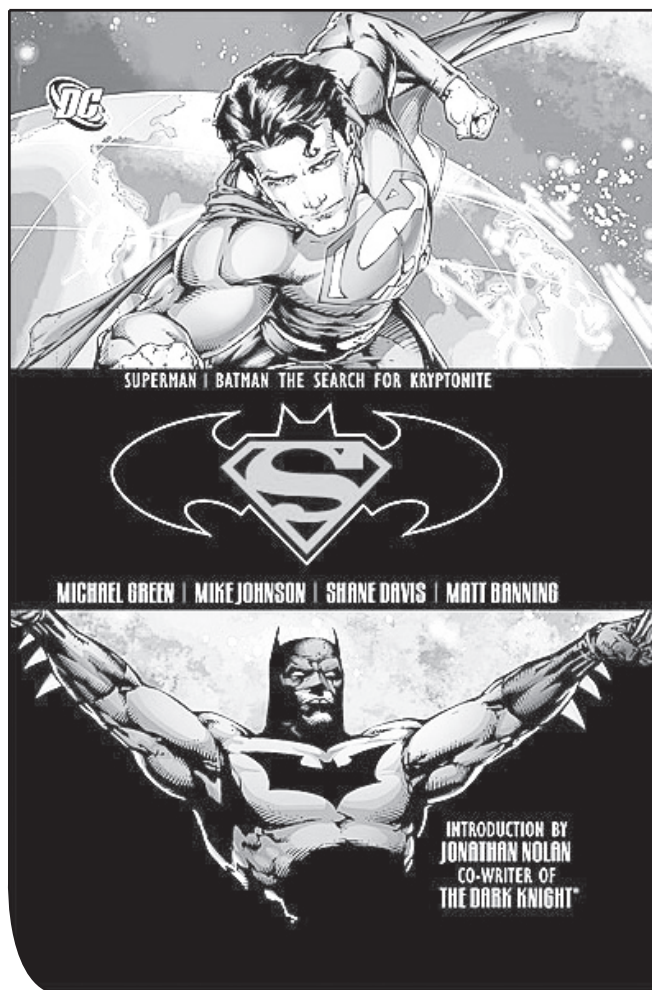
What starts out as a quest to make Earth safer for Superman quickly becomes a battle of life and death for our heroes—from betrayals to secrets, "The Search for Kryptonite" keeps the drama going all the way to the final sketch.

Written by Michael Green (Smallville, Heroes) and Mike Johnson, the storyline is fresh and maintains a superb balance between the all-American boy tone of Superman and the gloom-and-doom of Batman, keeping the characters much more human than they both would otherwise seem.

Superman's inner angst in the novel comes from his tendency to believe in the best in people—because he wants to be as good of a person as he can be—and it's the betrayals by those he sees as great that throw him off his game. He wants to be a human being so badly—he wants to protect people from the darkness in the world—but his struggle to be human clashes with the fact that he's not.

Enter the storyline: with kryptonite made available to anyone, suddenly Superman is very vulnerable and his one true friend, Batman, is the only one with enough resources to help Big Blue become a god once more.

Shane Davis and Matt "Batt" Banning take over the art for this volume, giving Superman his little curl and Batman enough shadow to build a hotel in. Both keep the drawing tight and detailed, making sure to make the characters as real as possible, which gives the characters real emotions and makes the fight scenes very powerful.



[www.dccomics.com](http://www.dccomics.com)

*While not the original dynamic duo, these legends of the DC Universe have always have been an exciting team when paired for the "Superman/Batman" series.*

However real the characters look, though, the comic still breathes pure old-school Superman/Batman charisma with bright and direct colors, the occasional "KAA-BOOM," and even a small segment where the Justice League look like something out of

Toon Disney.

The Superman/Batman series began in April 2003, updating the World's Finest Comics, and was first written by Jeph Loeb (Lost, Heroes), bringing the finest heroes of our time together monthly. Loeb began a dualnarrator technique to present the characters' often opposing viewpoints and

estimations of each other, which subsequent series writers have maintained. The insight into the characters gives the comic a better feel for the story by getting the reader much more involved and conveying the different perspectives that define both Batman and Superman. The ironic friendship between Superman, who believes in the best in people, and Batman, who trusts no one and plans for the worst possible catastrophe, gives each graphic novel a very real and powerful relationship that provides a backbone to each storyline.

"The Search for Kryptonite" brings the small elements together with many big twists—from the humor of the Flash making fun of Superman to the toyman, Hiro, making the world safe again for Superman (and getting a date out of Power Girl), the graphic novel hits the right dramatic points while still keeping the fun and light-heartedness of years past.

Reviewer rating: 4.0 elephants



### NEW

### RELEASES

### THIS

### WEEK

#### Music:

Young Dubliners  
*Saints and Sinners*

The Fray  
*The Fray*

Bow Wow  
*New Jack City, pt.2*

#### Movies:

Taken

The Uninvited

New in Town

Sam's Lake

#### DVDs:

Lakeview Terrace

#### Games:

Wet

Ultimate Shooting  
Collection

Leisure Suit Larry:  
Box Office Bust

## Got Ink?

Rose's first  
choice for  
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# How to: have outdoor winter fun

**Melissa Schwenk**  
*Staff Writer*

As I sat in my room trying to do homework on Tuesday, the National Weather Service interrupted my show, telling me to stay off the roads due to a winter storm. I had to think, why stay inside and do my homework when I could go out and have some good, cold winter fun. Everyone should take advantage of the snow while it's here, since it's as fleeting as the desire to do homework. Here are some ideas for how to have outdoor winter fun without leaving campus for supplies.

The classic outdoor activity is a snowball fight. While getting a large group of people together can be difficult here at Rose, once a snowball fight is started, more and more people will join. If you have a couple days advanced notice, you can begin planning an epic battle of snow, complete with ice forts and sling shots. To make an ice fort, start by building snow walls. This can

be done quickly with empty garbage cans. Once your walls are high and thick, pour cold water on top. The water should freeze if it is cold enough outside, at which point you now have somewhere to put all your ammo. You can use many things as sling shots but the easiest to find might be a bra. Ask a girl you are friends with (please don't creep out someone you don't know) for her bra with the best elastic. Fill the cups with two well packed snow balls, pull back, and watch them fly. With these tips, you can have an epic battle the likes of which Rose has never seen.

Another way you can have fun when there is snow on the ground

is to play catch with a white baseball. Who doesn't like something hard flying at their face when they can't see it? If you don't like the idea of possibly breaking your nose, you could play with a yellow softball, which is easier

to see. The snow makes it difficult to run after the ball, adding to the challenge of the game. The more people who fall while playing, the better. Similarly, you can play this game with golf clubs

and golf balls, at which point it becomes chase after a tiny ball down a hill as fast as you can! This game then devolves into rolling down a hill, which is pretty fun as well.

If you are more creative than

athletic (which is likely as this is an engineering school), have a snow sculpture contest. Get a group of friends together and see who can make the most awkward, the most creative, the ugliest, or the tallest snow sculpture. Then wait and see how long it takes for the grounds people to tear it down. You could even place bets on how long they stand.

The last way you can have fun outside when it's snowy is to go sledding. Here at Rose we have several large hills, both with obstacles and without. The hill by the apartments is a fun hill to sled down, with relatively few obstacles. For a more challenging ride, try the hill by the BSB parking lot. A few words of advice: Don't go sledding alone. Not only will you look like a friendless creeper, but no one will be there to help you walk back when you crash and hurt yourself. The more people you have to go with, the more fun you can have. Sledding races are a fun alternative to just watching

your friends go down a hill. Plus, you can try to crash into each other and sabotage the race.

Since there is already snow on the ground and the National Weather Service advises that we stay off the road, many of us will have to make do with what we already have. Possible alternatives to real sleds include the lids of totes, the plastic things comforters and collapsible laundry baskets come in, and trays. As this is an engineering school, I'm sure many of you could come up with other creative alternatives to sleds. Just make sure that you return anything that you borrow.

With these ideas, winter, cold, and even snow won't give you the blues. Remember, the snow won't stick around forever, so use this as an excuse to take advantage of it today and procrastinate a little longer.

If you have something you want explained, send your questions to the Rose Thorn at [thorn@rose-hulman.edu](mailto:thorn@rose-hulman.edu). You just might see a How-To Article about it.

## Well I guess this is growing up

**Mitchell Ishmael**  
*Staff Writer*

Over the past couple of days I have come to a profound realization: my childhood is ending. If you know me or anything about me then you know that I am pretty immature; I like to goof around a lot. Most of the jokes that I tell involve poop, toilets or male reproductive organs; and most of the time I will be the only one laughing at these jokes. I smile all the time and I will laugh at anything and everything. If you leave your phone around I'll steal it and send an obscure text message to someone in your contact list. I wear all of my roommate's clothing because I'm too lazy to do my own laundry, and I only have one dress shirt in my entire wardrobe. The list could contin-

ue, but for my reputation's sake, I am going to cut it off here.

I've always viewed college as the time where you transform yourself from a boy into a man, and now it is my time to do just that. I want to be respected and viewed as a leader around the campus, and I know that telling obscene jokes and acting irresponsible is not going to help me get there. I am excited to become a leader and shoulder burdensome tasks while taking responsibility for myself and others. I enjoy a challenge, and I think I am ready to step onto the path of leadership.

My transition into a man doesn't come without any regrets, though. I am disheartened about some of the changes that I plan to make; I feel that in some way they are part of my identity. Now,

instead of being happy go lucky all the time, I have to wait until I drink because it seems that is the only socially acceptable time for a grown man to act silly. Shyness is no longer an option, I must either be self-confident or appear to be. How I feel about something must be kept to myself and only myself. In short, I must become more somber and self confident and I'm nervous about changing my character.

The transition has its positives and negatives, like anything, but I know that it is something that I must do and Rose will be the place for it. I realize the price I must pay for respect is my childhood, and it is a price that I am reluctantly willing to accept. I have never really been one to make sacrifices like that, but, I guess this is growing up.

**Cari Harper**

*Layout Manager*

We've reached the long haul in terms of classes, and now is the tipping point that separates the freshman and dropouts from those who would become upperclassmen. There are many factors that contribute to success and failure, and one is organizational skills. Organizational methods for to-do lists vary widely from person to person, as does the need for organization. While some people have photographic memories, others of us have trouble with our own names. There are a multitude of tips and tricks for dealing with this problem, but one of the most basic is to simply write things down. Where and how is a matter of discussion.

The use of post-it notes is a classic solution, useful for quick jotted notes of any sort that can be adhered to your folders, door, monitor, or forehead for portable quick reminders. Sadly due to the nature of the sticky-note adhesive, if your notes get roughed up a bit before you've completed what is on it you run the risk of losing your memos. In addition, post-it notes are more susceptible to the smudging of ink and pencil (and other forms of defacement) due to being placed in exposed locations. The sticky-note has a digital desktop equivalent in all sorts of applications. The primary benefit to this application is the unlimited free writing space. I say free because (as anyone who has tried to post-it note a bed can tell you) those small colorful squares of paper with adhesive must be traded with other pieces of green-inked Crane paper. If you carry your laptop with you, the notes are wherever you are. This does come with a caveat, if you can't run your laptop in class you can't access those reminders to add your latest assignment.

A personal favorite of mine for organizing my thoughts is the whiteboard. Moderately sized boards are fairly inexpensive (though the markers are not) but will last significantly longer than

a stack of post-it notes. One of the greatest benefits of the method is the color though, colors allow you to prioritize, make connections, and most importantly doodle. Sadly, while you can take it to class your notes will not remain in-tact. And you might get a few odd looks. The only direct digital counterpart to the whiteboard could be a tablet PC. While the technology still hasn't developed to what I would consider a satisfactory extent, they are sweet little machines for taking all of your notes and marking things up like crazy. Those who have them swear by them, those of us who don't balk at the price tag.

The planner and classic to-do list are excellent staples for organization of tasks. The Rose-issued planners have not only an excellent setup for remembering dates for all your assignments and tests, but the campus calendar with the important dates such as the last day to add/drop class and breaks. All of this is, however, contingent on you remembering where you placed your planner and opening it on a regular basis. While this is not something I ever got the hang of, I do check my e-mail, and do so the recommended 3-5 times a day for the average Rose student.

Enter Google stage left. iGoogle has a host of gadgets for your to-do lists, Google Calendar, and Gmail (which can consolidate your e-mail addresses). One feature in Gmail Labs allows you to create a task list in Gmail, and make tasks out of e-mails. Not only is my to-do list with me when I travel, but it's always there to greet me when I try to procrastinate and check my e-mail.

There are thousands of tips and tricks to extend your memory, but why bother when you can write or type something out? We're already busy trying to remember the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus and whether trifluoromethanesulfonate is a good leaving group, so for keeping track of the little things organization is key. There is no perfect organization method, so good organization is all about what works for you, whether it is digital or analogue or a blend of both.

## The ladies man

**Elliot Simon**  
*Staff Writer*

Dear Ladies Man,

My girlfriend wants me to come with her to shop at Victoria's Secret, but I've never been in a lingerie store before. What should I do?

-Lost in Lingerie

Dear Lost,

Don't worry! Victoria's Secret is much friendlier than it first appears; just keep your wits about you and you'll do just fine.

First, while Victoria's Secret sells lingerie, they also sell scented products, lip gloss, and other such makeup items. Don't be intimidated by the dummies they have in the storefront or the suggestive posters behind them—the odds of finding a real underwear supermodel inside are actually quite low (approaching zero, even), so just remember why you're there. One thing you're sure to notice right when you walk in is the pervasive pink, girly atmosphere. This is a clever marketing ploy, directed at the ladies who shop there, and is not meant to alienate you.

Second, I deem the front two-thirds of the Victoria's Secret here

in Terre Haute to be 99% Rose-gentleman safe. Of course the very front is mildly suggestive, but none of the really evocative material can be found until the very back of the store. The middle section has the registers for buying items, along with the aforementioned scented items that have such indicative names as "SexyForHim" and "Rapture." Said items actually look and smell very nice, so I advise showing off your level of comfort with the store by picking one and trying it out (anything with a "Play With Me" sticker on it is fair game). Be careful as overuse of this can lead to you smelling like a bad mix of Axe, Old Spice, and wet dog.

Finally, the back of the store is where it really gets interesting. Here there is a mixture of brassieres and underwear, ranging from a teddy to the latest in thong technology.

If your lady brings you back here, don't panic. She most likely wants to see that you can handle yourself when surrounded by a bunch of disturbing half-mannequins that show off the latest sheer underwear or barely-there bra. Unfortunately, there is no escape at this point, so you're just going to have to knuckle

under. If your girlfriend is actually going to buy something, she will most likely try it before purchasing. The dressing room at the extreme rear of the store is very comfortably ac-

quitted, with a very relaxing chair outside the rooms for you to wait in. If everything goes well, she'll pick something and you'll be in and out without a hassle. If you really want to wow your lady, suggest doing something fun while you're at the mall such as going to the arcade or even seeing a movie.

“Everyone should take advantage of the snow while it's here, since it's as fleeting as the desire to do homework.”

“Be careful as overuse of this can lead to you smelling like a bad mix of Axe, Old Spice, and wet dog.”





Christine Price

Opinions Editor

People claim this is a free country, and that we have freedom of speech. Freedom of the press. But nothing could be farther from the truth.

As I gaze out the windows of the Thorn office, I can't help but feel the vertical blinds are bars, and I'm looking through a jail cell out into the wintery wasteland of Soviet Russia. You may not know it, dear reader, but when it comes to writing for the Thorn, there are rules. Such as, "no bylines for individual articles," which is why my articles never have the subheading of, "Challenging the journalistic integrity of the Thorn one week at a time."

Not having bylines is sad, but it gets much worse. For example, we are supposed to be "unbiased." So I can't write an article about a super awesome philanthropic competition hosted last Friday by super awesome women in a super awesome organization. Because I'm part of that organization, The Man thinks my article would be biased. Which is silly—I don't think the organi-

The  
Price  
is  
Right

zation is awesome because I'm in it; I'm in it because it is awesome.

There's other rules too. Like "no plagiarism." So if I feel like getting more sleep, I can't just "borrow" an article from the marvelous columnist Charlie Brooker, and claim it as my own. I also can't say, "here's a few paragraphs by Terry Pratchett, because this short scene from *Carpe Jugulum* expresses my feelings on religion more eloquently than I ever could." Which is a pity, because it's a really excellent scene. Feel free to e-mail me about it.

There's also rules about content, i.e. it must exist. I can't just say, "Go to [http://current.com/topics/88813968/target\\_women/new/0.htm](http://current.com/topics/88813968/target_women/new/0.htm) and then go to YouTube to watch 'Drinking out of cups' because both are more entertaining than I ever hope to be." I also can't just leave white space, large or small. And in-jokes? As much as I would love to just write things that only a select few people can relate to ("If you hate bees, you better love pants," "I'm a cheese wheel!", and "Yeah, they would be all, 'What are those flying things?'"), I'm supposed to

write for a general audience. Sorry 206.

I say, let us rise up against this fascist regime. Too long have rules of "style" and "grammar" controlled the creation of the Thorn. We should break from our world of sonnets, and become free verse. We are already on the cutting edge of technology, let's go to the cutting edge of the English language. We will lead the nation to a new era of



*I also can't condone child abuse. But I can show instructional pictures, as long as they appear when I search for "Freedom of the Press"*

news, an era filled with misinformation and poor page construction. An era of bias and rambling sentences that are filled with cromulent made up words, and headline titles that would make sailors blush. Only then will this great country truly be free.

## Freedom my arse

## SERIOUSLY. *Mark Minster*

A friend from high school found me on Facebook recently. He sent me a request to send him a list of 25 facts about myself. Here's my list. You can pretend you care, or you can make your own.

(1) Possibly my favorite thing in the world is when my dog runs back to me with her tennis ball in her mouth. It's her favorite, too. She's a lesson in concentration, and joy.

(2) My favorite places on earth are the edges of continents: the rocky tidepools of Maine and Oregon, the steep slopes of Big Sur, the cold shores of Counties Cork and Donegal, the white sands of Finistere.

(3) My ideal Saturday in autumn involves a nap and some soup. My ideal Wednesday in any season involves sitting on the floor in the stacks in a library.

(4) I hate freezing rain, or 30 degrees and clear. But I love rain, and snow, and the light on snow.

(5) I got a guitar for Christmas. I practice scales and chords for 15 minutes every day, mostly because I want to play songs from Beck's Sea Changes and anything by Elliott Smith. Melancholy. E

(14) I might slug someone for insulting Abraham Lincoln.

(15) I dated a woman once who slept on the floor, her mattress surrounded by books of criticism. We broke up quickly.

(16) I like parts of speech so much I personify them. For instance: adverbs seem to me to be promiscuous, downright slutty. They're attractive, sure—hots-

I was in love with girls from the age of four.

gusting, my friend Dustin would call them—but generally trashy, and better avoided.

(17) Sometimes when I watch The Simpsons, I say out loud, "that's a great joke," even if I'm by myself. That doesn't happen when I watch Arrested Development. I'm laughing too hard.

(18) I want to write a book called *A Divine Grammar*, which would be an esoteric work of theology that sought to understand divinity through our attempts at speaking about it.

(19) Sometimes I want to write pop-up books.

(20) I think the most valuable trait an individual can have is attentiveness. Not in class, but in the woods, in the movie theater, in the various rooms of the house.

(21) When I was a kid, my friends and I played Team One, a game in which we each had a super-power. Mine was turning invisible.

(22) I would love to spend a summer hiking the Appalachian Trail and another summer visiting minor league baseball stadiums.

(23) I haven't lost at Boggle since I was a child. I give myself handicaps. I trash-talk.

I dated a woman once... we broke up quickly.

(24) I think the most valuable trait a society can have is empathy. And that's why I think reading and writing fiction is one of the highest callings one can have.

(25) In my ideal world, all of my friends would live in the same town. We wouldn't have cell phones. We would share a vegetable garden. We'd ride bikes.

## The SGA apathy

Tim Boyer

Copy Editor

This past Wednesday, January 28, the Student Government Association (SGA) held its annual elections for president and vice president. There were two candidates for president and three for vice president (myself included). Announced yesterday, Sarah Erhart and Cody Barron were the winners for the respective positions, and I'm sure they will do a great job.

What really gets to me about this election was the very low turnout. Of the 1,800 or so students enrolled at this school, only 557 students

voted. Granted, seniors weren't really involved in the election (they are on their way out), but the three remaining classes of freshman, sophomores and juniors were spammed to all ends and reminded multiple times throughout the day. Flyers with information on each candidate were distributed to those students before the election Wednesday.

This effort seemed to be fruitless as only a little more than a third of the students informed actually took the five minutes, out of the available 24 hours, to vote. Granted, it is unreasonable to expect a perfect or even near perfect

response. I initially had more faith in the student body that we would easily have half the students respond, possibly even get to 1,000 votes.

Each student pays the school \$50 each quarter (\$150 a year) that goes into the SGA fund. Last year's overall budget was somewhere around \$220,000 and that comes back to you any time you participate in a club. To those 557 students who voted, thank you for caring. For those who didn't, perhaps you should care more about who controls the body of people that decides how your money is spent.

## Twilight: kind of rubbish

Lindsey Saxton

Staff Writer

I was talking to a friend a few days ago when I mentioned that I was listening to one of my favorite songs by a favorite band, "Supermassive Black Hole" by Muse. I was extremely annoyed when said friend started going on about some baseball scene and the amazing special effects used. It took me a few seconds to decipher that she were talking about the movie "Twilight." Never having seen the movie, I had no clue what she were talking about. I find it pathetic that the "Twilight" book series, mediocre at best, has become a national phenomenon.

Curious about what all the buzz was about, I read the books some months ago. Like I said before, they were just ok. The characters were weird and unrelatable, and, the plots were so fantastic that I didn't see how CNN could call the stories the modern Romeo and Ju-

liet. I mean, realistically, the geeky, weird loner does not end up with the Greek god type. I simply do not understand why so many people love this series and are as addicted to it as they are. It's kind of ridiculous.

Now, some have said that this is the first time that a vampire series has been good enough to become nationally recognized. Have they not heard of "Blade," "Underworld," or "Anne Rice?" Apparently not. I mean, if a series is popular enough to have a third movie made in the series when the second one was absolutely terrible (the "Underworld" series), then it's obviously well known enough that the backers think enough money can be made off of it. The "Anne Rice" novels are well known enough that Tom Cruise and Aliyah have starred in movie versions.

What began as a book has exploded into a series, movie, and other random paraphernalia. Who hasn't been pelted by "Twilight"

themed Flair and Bumper Stickers? It's reached the point that I've been looked down upon once or twice for not knowing some inside reference. I mean, I'm sorry I only read through the book series once and tried to forget it as soon as possible. It's not that I don't like reading or have a good memory. It's that I repressed most details of the books soon after reading them. Not only could I not relate to the characters, but the endings of the books and series were so predictable that I was supremely disappointed. Is it too much to ask for a single plot twist?

Of course, this could all stem from the fact that I dislike the romance genre. Some try to argue that the "Twilight" series has science fiction elements to it. Just because one of the main characters is a vampire doesn't make it sci-fi. The main plot thread is the relationship between the human and the vampire. It's a romance novel. Get over it.

minor and A minor are very easy chords. F hurts.

(6) When I was ten I ran away from home. I got about a block away. I wanted a snack.

(7) Once, I wrote a love poem to a Polish-Canadian woman when I worked processing visa papers at the University of Chicago. I tucked it into her I-20 renewal form. She wrote back. She had amazing handwriting and eyes.

(8) If I'm cooking for myself, I'm likely to make plain spaghetti. If I'm cooking for company, I make intricate and complicated things: cassoulets and curries from scratch.

(9) I'm bad with deadlines. Ask the Thorn editors. *[Editor's Note: True story.]*

(10) I was in love with girls from the age of four. I carved a girl's name into a bookshelf when I was in kindergarten.

(11) I believe that American Christians are often serious about the wrong things, and I wish they had better senses of humor.

(12) My fiancée's name is Candace. She looks like she came from a William Morris painting. She knits, spins, weaves, cans, writes, teaches, and cooks. I met her in a bookstore when I left poems on her table. I almost walked away before talking to her. She recognized me by my pen.

(13) In general, I like Jews, Buddhists and atheists more than Christians.

Have opinions?

Send them to  
opinions@  
rose-hulman.edu



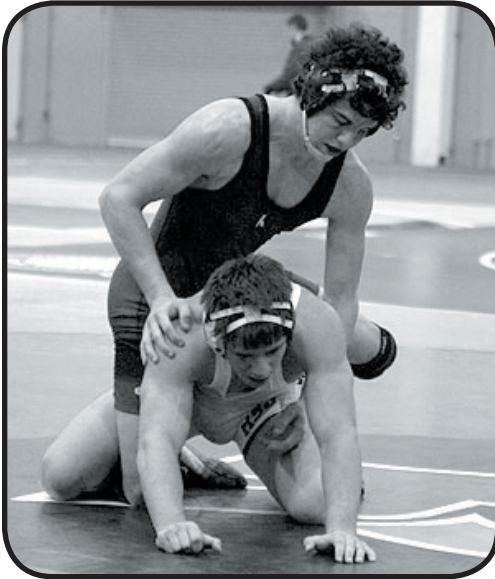
# Wrestling and Rifle cut

**Tim Boyer**  
*Copy Editor*

Effective next year, the wrestling and rifle programs at Rose-Hulman will lose their funding from the Athletic Department. The Rifle program has saved enough money to compete at the varsity squad next year but Wrestling is not as fortunate. Pete Gustafson explained the program cuts as a method to reduce the budget with the slowing economy. "Many years, athletics gets funding from interest off the endowment but with the slowing economy, it's a loss of income," he explained. Over the past cou-

ple years, Rose-Hulman has been reducing the budget by about nine percent, but cuts for next year will amount to somewhere around 22 percent. This comes as a bittersweet moment for the Rifle team who recently beat nationally ranked Ohio State University. This past Sunday, the team defeated the buckeyes by a score of 4,374 to 4,034. Junior mechanical engineering major Lucas Weir recorded a career high score of 1,116 to lead the squad in the match. In addition, senior mechanical engineering major and wrestler Tyler Goble is having a standout season, currently touting a 24-6

record so far. While these two programs are being affected the most by being completely cut, other programs are experiencing cuts, with the biggest cut coming from travel. One of the methods that athletics will be reducing prices will be going back to mini-buses that will be driven by coaches. Additionally, athletics isn't the only department experiencing major cuts. Gustafson stressed that every budget in the school will be making significant cuts, some more so than others, most the cuts coming from travel and professional development budgets, he said.



Photos courtesy Rose-Hulman News

## Engineer Scoreboard

Men's Basketball 7-12 (2-8)	Women's Basketball 5-12 (2-8)
January 24 Rose-Hulman 73 at Bluffton University 82	January 24 Rose-Hulman 53 at Bluffton University 67
January 29 Franklin College 82 at Rose-Hulman 72	January 29 Rose-Hulman 47 at Franklin College 62
<b>Rifle</b>	
January 25 Ohio State University Columbus, OH	1st Place 4374-4034
<b>Swimming and Diving</b>	
January 24 Transylvania University Lexington, KY	M-2nd W-2nd
January 25 Centre College Danville, KY	M-2nd W-2nd
<b>Wrestling</b>	
January 24 Monon Bell Classic Crawfordsville, IN	10-6 team record
<b>Track &amp; Field</b>	
January 25 Friday Night Invitational Terre Haute, IN	M-5 wins W-5 wins

What do you think about the Athletic Department's budget cuts? Voice your opinion! E-mail your thoughts to [thorn@rose-hulman.edu](mailto:thorn@rose-hulman.edu).

## POST-GAME RUNDOWN

**Jim Shaw**  
*Head Men's Basketball Coach*

[Editor's note: Due to the poor weather conditions on Tuesday evening, the men's basketball game versus Franklin College was postponed until last night. Although the men did not beat Franklin, they did give a tremendous effort throughout.]

Since The Thorn comes out on Friday and has to be completed before our rescheduled game against Franklin Thurs. night, I am going to point out some things I hope happened in the game. Franklin is a very good team and beat us at their place in early December. The primary three reasons for our loss were: their transition offense, their offensive rebounding, and our inability to convert easy opportunities into points. We are going to try to neutralize their transition game by assigning someone to pick up their point guard wherever he is on the floor and rely on other guys to get back in transition and protect the basket. Their point guard is really good at pushing the tempo and hurt us with 3's in transition, so the hope is that he will have someone in front of him at all times. But to do that, the other guys re-

ally have to have good floor balance, sprint back and match-up quickly to prevent them from getting easy baskets. We work daily on blocking out and rebounding, but Franklin really hurt us in that area with their aggressiveness. Our level of aggressiveness has been a real focus this week. We have to be aggressive in attacking the basket at the offensive end, while aggressively blocking out and going after the ball on the defensive end. The third focus is finishing plays with scores. We executed well the first time and think we can get good shots this game also. We have to relax, take our time and go up strong around the basket while recognizing good perimeter opportunities and knocking down the shot, particularly late in the possession. If you are reading this on Friday and we won, it is probably because we improved in those three areas. And if you are looking for something to do on Saturday, the SRC will be full of action. The men play Mt. St. Joe at 3p.m., followed by the women's game at 5p.m. In addition, there is a huge indoor track meet all Saturday afternoon. It would be a great time to come down and show support for Rose-Hulman and our student-athletes!

## Religious Literacy



**4:30 - 5:30 p.m. in the White Chapel**

This session will give you a general understanding of tenets of the faith, holidays, traditions and customs, sects, and sacred texts for the various religions. The information will assist you day to day, while traveling, and working with international clients.

**TUESDAY, February 3 -Buddhism**

**Presented by High Lama, Arjia Rinpoche  
from the Tibetan Mongolian Buddhist Cultural Center**

**TUESDAY, February 10 - Hinduism**

**Presented by Dr. Sriram Mohan  
Refreshments will be served**



**SUPER BOWL XLIII**  
STEELERS / CARDINALS  
Send your reactions to  
[thorn@rose-hulman.edu](mailto:thorn@rose-hulman.edu)

Football image courtesy: <http://www.collegecharlie.com/>



*Oh Yes, It Exists. And It KILLS.*

Only at Rose might a serious discussion regarding the potential possibilities and problematic pitfalls of video game worlds take place. And only at Rose might such a discussion develop to the extent of naming that material that most likely makes up a majority of said environments: *InvinciSteel*. With the exception of a few rare gems, the environment in a solid majority of video games is virtually indestructible, invincible even. Since its creation at the dawn of time (or at least the dawn of video games), *InvinciSteel* has ruined the lives of many a gamer. Who has not been forced to take a circuitous route through implacable foes because of *InvinciSteel*? And furthermore, what effect does such a material have on the in-game world?

Despite possessing a rocket launcher, chainsaw bayonet, or other implement of hand-held destruction capable of tearing enemies apart with savage glee, the simplest (apparently) wooden door becomes an insurmountable obstacle worthy of minutes, if not hours, of sewer-bound detours when made of InvinciSteel. In addition, despite driving in a gargantuan treaded behemoth of a tank, something as minor as a simple chain fence can stand in your way when reinforced with InvinciSteel links.

And yet, despite the prevalence of InvinciSteel throughout many virtual worlds, the player in such games is seemingly unable to procure any of this miraculous substance for himself. What might you do in a fighting style game with weapons (Soul Caliber or the like) if your armor was made of InvinciSteel? You'd be nearly invincible! Only attacks to exposed areas would be able to get through (I feel sorry for many of the female characters in those styles of games).

Furthermore, direct gameplay effects aside, what might the effect of such a large world made primarily out of InvinciSteel on said world's environment be? After all, in our world, where a far less indestructible material (plastic) is regularly able to wreck havoc with the environment, what effect might a far more durable substance have? And what happens when a particular piece of InvinciSteel is upgraded? You can't very well destroy such an antiquated object and melting it down for recycling purposes seems unlikely (have you ever sat down with a flame thrower in game, trying to melt a hole in a wall?). Someday, it seems likely that the waste will make up a mass greater than any other in the game environment!

Finally, consider the present day situation. Every day it seems, newer and more powerful games are being created and with that comes newer and more powerful physics engines. And with that comes some of the earliest highly realistic destructible environments. It's only a matter of time until more and more games are ridding themselves of InvinciSteel in the sake of realism. And yet, we must consider what effect this will have on the internal technology levels of said games. As our technology improves, the required advancements to create such a miraculous substance as InvinciSteel begin to fade!

Overall, InvinciSteel is an odd creation, one both highly useful (as a shortcut in creating and displaying gameworlds) and often annoying (as a roadblock used to send the players merrily to their deaths).



KAHN ROOM, Rose-Hulman – Master Alchemist Sarah Erhart has been elected the President of the SGA, prompting things of a celebratory nature to some in a few locations. Few can forget the three furious days of door-to-door campaigning and mass-email spamming of this historically regular event. The president-elect has not yet appeared with vice president-elect Cody Barron to give the customary speech of hope and change. However, rumors have already emerged of president-elect Erhart's ties with the quicksilver industry and recent global events have caused some to question vice-president-elect Barron's vocal support of military action. When polled, most people on campus do not seem to care about these troubling allegations. It is not yet known if the opposition parties will attempt to sue for a recount, as the lack of a paper trail will make such an endeavor very difficult.

### *Nick Easter - He's Got a Stalker Book and He Knows How to Use It*

We will find you.

Any Prof Want To Answer These For Us?

11. Do you ever see people sleeping in class and just think “eh, it’s Rose, screw it?”

### 10. What's the policy with profs dating students?

9. If, theoretically, we knew where you lived, and, hypothetically of course, we were to stop by with “adult beverages,” would you assist us in the “correct disposal” of our “adult beverages?”

8. Didn't you also sleep in class when you were in college?

7. Really, you want to come with us to Sonka's Friday night?

6. You have a daughter? Is she hot?

5. Truth or Dare, you go first. If you had to pick one student in the class to...

4. I record your lectures and play them at bedside to help me fall asleep.

3. I just finished your test. You owe me dinner.

2. Would it be better if I come to class and sleep through the entire thing or just ditch it entirely?

1. By the way, this isn't actually water in my Nalgene; it is in fact alcohol, and it is quite tasty. Would you like some?

WHY!?!? He Was So Young! WHY?!?!?!?!?

In a story sure to send shockwaves through the gnome community, Gnome #19 was tragically found shattered last Saturday night at his home in Percopo 123. The crime is currently being investigated, and alcohol-related foul play is suspected. In honor of their fallen comrade, all gnomes are asked to attend the funeral of #19 and the subsequent gnome reunion. All students that return their gnomes to Percopo 123 or Speed 306 will be rewarded for their kind deed in ensuring their gnome can attend the funeral of poor #19. Thank you and God bless.

“Hey, you guys back there, quit playing grab ass!”  
— *Dr. Artigue, who is clearly jealous he wasn't invited.*

“Gantt was a mechanical engineer. Poor Guy.”  
— Dr. Hanson. To whom I respond HAAAAAAAAHA.

“Is the area of this shape hard to get? Pfft, no. It’s a freaking rectangle!”  
— *Dr. Thomas, doubling as Captain Obvious for a moment.*

“And now I’ve underesti-  
mated the length of my  
denominator.” — Dr.  
*Coronell. This is my first  
attempt today in making  
this column as awkward  
as possible.*

“These people are sick and quite possibly dangerous—I recommend avoiding them.” — *Dr. Leader’s on people who don’t know what it means for a matrix to be “positive definite.” Oddly enough, that includes most of us.*

"I may have to gag Sara, but yes." — *Dr. Massman, who enjoys unorthodox methods of...teaching?*

**"You can't handle the proof!"**  
— Dr. Holder. Best professor use of a movie quote since "Damn it Jim, I'm a Civil, not a double E!"

“Yeah, I’ve got a slick butt.”  
— Dr. Mueller, *again helping me make this page as awkward as possible.*

“One state is like death.”  
— Dr. Doering. Scary...*If I knew what in the world he was talking about...*

“If you see me doing this it means I have no clue what’s going on, but I’m trying to look smart enough to figure it out.”  
— *Dr. Morris. I knew I wasn’t the only one!*

“We’ll just be smearing it on each other, anyway, so...”  
— Dr. O’Connor. *And the awkwardness has peaked. Ergo, Awkward turtle!*